



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
FROM THE OFFICE ACTION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 14, 2005.

Margaret A. Sullivan
Signature

Applicant : Seth Weisberg, et al. Confirmation No. 5093.
Application No. : 09/788,069
Filed : February 16, 2001
Title : ON-LINE VALUE-BEARING INDICIUM PRINTING USING DSA

Grp./Div. : 3621
Examiner : Firmin Backer

Docket No. : 41232/SAH/S850

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
February 14, 2005

Commissioner:

Applicant petitions the Commissioner to extend the time for response to the Office action dated September 13, 2004 for two month(s) from December 13, 2004 to February 13, 2005.

The fee for extension of time required by 37 CFR § 1.17 is calculated below.

CALCULATION OF FEE			
LENGTH OF EXTENSION	SMALL ENTITY	LARGE ENTITY	FEE
WITHIN FIRST MONTH	\$ 60	\$ 120	\$
WITHIN SECOND MONTH	\$ 225	\$ 450	\$450.00
WITHIN THIRD MONTH	\$ 510	\$ 1020	\$
WITHIN FOURTH MONTH	\$ 795	\$1590	\$
WITHIN FIFTH MONTH	\$1080	\$2160	\$

Submitted herewith is a check for \$450.00 to cover the cost of the extension.

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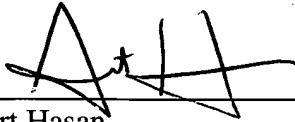
450.00 OP

Petition for Extension of Time
Application No. 09/788,069

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account. **A copy of this letter is enclosed.**

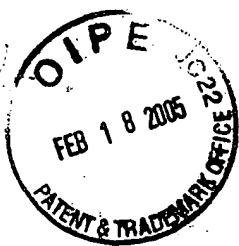
Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
Art Hasan
Reg. No. 41,057
626/795-9900

SAH/mas

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87W 3621
PATENT

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TC/A.U. : 3621
Examiner : Firmin Backer

Docket No. : 41232/SAH/S850
Customer No. : 23363

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
February 14, 2005

Commissioner:

This communication is filed in response to the Office action of September 13, 2004. Claims 1-37 are pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, reexamination and allowance of the application.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 as being anticipated by Leon, U.S. Patent 6,424,954 ("Leon") in view of Lewis, U.S. Patent 6,233,565. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn. Applicants' invention, as set forth in amended claim 1, includes, among other features set forth in the claims, the step of communicating the digital signature from one of a plurality

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Amdt date February 14, 2005

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of stateless cyrptomodules to one of a plurality of remotely located user computers. The remaining independent claims 12, 19, 30 and 35 contain similar limitations as set forth in the claims. In contrast, and as explained in the response to the prior Office action, Leon discloses a localized hardware-based system located at the user's site. Leon's system teaches a dedicated postage metering system (SMD) connected to the user's computer as an external hardware device or circuit card that is portable. The SMD couples to the personal computer via a communications link 122 that can be a local serial link such as an RS-232 interface. By carefully partitioning the various features of the metering system, Leon teaches that the SMD can be manufactured in a relatively small size and low cost unit. See Leon, col. 2, lines 29-40, col. 3, line 61- col. 4, line 20, FIGs. 1A and 1B. In Leon's system, each SMD performs state functions. See Leon, cols. 9, 10. Accordingly, in Leon's system, depending on the number of users, there may be thousands of individual localized SMDs attached to each user's PC. There is no disclosure in Leon of Applicants' system in which a stateless cryptomodule is used to interact with a plurality of remote users.

There is no motivation to combine Leon with Lewis. As Leon is limited to independent hardware devices and Lewis discloses a system with a master PSD and other PSDs that communicate with the master PSD, there is no motivation to combine the references to provide the claimed invention. See Lewis, col. 6. lines 60-65; FIG. 1. As there is motivation to combine the references to

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produce the claimed invention, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 is improper and should therefore be withdrawn.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants request early issuance of a notice of allowance of claims 1-37 presently pending in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 

Art Hasan

Reg. No. 41,057

626/795-9900

SAH/amb

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